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25X1A
[REDACTED]25X1X [REDACTED] Comment :

The 21st Tank Brig at 3 a.m. one day received a radio order to participate in the large-scale 1949 summer maneuvers at the Kaiserwald troop training grounds. The first tank group did not reach the maneuver area at Lazne Kynzvar (N 51/P 56) before 5 p.m. Only Cromwell tanks took part in the maneuvers. (5)

25X1A [REDACTED] Comment :

(1) Undoubtedly T 34 tanks.

(2) (a) The number of T 34 tanks alleged to have arrived in Zatec was corrected during the second interrogation and still appears rather high (a hundred T 34 tanks) if all the tanks are assumed to be destined for the 21st Tank Brig alone. The assumption that the tanks had been delivered from the Soviet Union is considered to be correct.

b. According to previous information, the T 34 tanks available in Czechoslovakia in early 1949 numbered about 130. They had been delivered by the Soviets in 1945 and 1946 and were assigned to the 11th and 12th Tank Brigs.

As the Czechoslovakian Army meets with great difficulties in obtaining spare parts and ammunition for its British-made tanks, it is believed probable that efforts are being made to replace these tanks by T 34 tanks.

It is noteworthy that the T 34 tanks delivered by the Soviets for the rearmament of the Czechoslovakian tank troops had been in use and possibly gone through the war.

(3) Probably the repeatedly reported Bren and Lloyd carriers which belong to the 44th SIG Bn or the Zatec armored personnel carrier infantry battalion (Czech abbreviation : Kolov) which has been reported several times.

(4) The half-track vehicles, probably belonging to the 44th SIG Bn, are of German origin or are US vehicles assigned to the brigade when it was activated in Great Britain.

(5) The report confirms that the 21st Tank Brig was still equipped with Cromwell tanks in the Summer of 1949. The brigade's tank equipment also included some Stuart tanks.

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